

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated hereafter (where underlining “_” denotes additions and strikethrough “-” denotes deletions).

Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for managing a predetermined set of email messages stored on a source email server from a remote email network, said method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

(a) receiving an email at the source email server, wherein the email is separate from the predetermined set of emails stored on the source email server, wherein said email has a destination email address in a first field, a code in a second field and an instruction in a third field, wherein said destination email address corresponds to a subscriber account on the remote email network;

(b) checking a database to determine ~~if a permission for~~ the destination email address has permission to implement the instruction; and

(c) applying the instruction to the predetermined set of emails if the permission is granted.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~ populating the database with subscriber email addresses corresponding to subscriber accounts authorized to remotely manage email.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, further comprising ~~the step of~~ populating the database with a device type associated with each subscriber email address, and wherein checking the database ~~step (b)~~ further comprises ~~the steps of~~ checking the database for the device type corresponding to the destination email address, determining if the device type is compatible with the instruction, and modifying the instruction according to the device type.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, further comprising ~~the step of~~ receiving a second email at the source email server, wherein said second email comprises a local subscriber's identification in a sender field and wherein said second email comprises at least one subscriber email address in a body field.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the code comprises a predetermined data string and wherein the second field is a subject field.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first field is a sender field.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the code comprises a predetermined data string and wherein the second field comprises an addressee field.
8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the predetermined string corresponds to an email account on the source server.
9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~ sending an information message to the destination email address if the permission is denied.
10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the instruction is a retrieve command, and wherein in response to said instruction, applying the instruction to the predetermined set of emails ~~step (e)~~ comprises sending the predetermined set of emails to the destination email address.
11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the instruction comprises a command and a criteria, and wherein in response to said instruction, applying the instruction to the predetermined set of emails ~~step (e)~~ further comprises ~~the steps of~~ searching a mailbox associated with the subscriber account to select the predetermined set of emails according to the criteria.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the command is a retrieve command.

13. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the command is a delete command.

14. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the command comprises a retrieve command and a delete command.

15. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the criteria comprises a sender's name string.

16. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the criteria comprises a subject string.

17. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the criteria comprises a date string.

18. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the criteria comprises a boolean operation and a plurality of date strings.

19. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the criteria comprises a subject string and a sender's name string.

20. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the criteria comprises a recipient name string.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the third field comprises a body field.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the instruction comprises a null string and wherein applying the instruction to the predetermined set of emails ~~step (c)~~ comprises performing a default action on the predetermined set of emails.

23. (Currently Amended) A method for managing a predetermined set of emails previously stored on a source email server from a remote email network, said method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

- (a) populating a database with subscriber email addresses corresponding to subscriber accounts authorized to remotely manage emails;
- (b) receiving an email at the source email server, the email not included in the predetermined set of emails previously stored on a source email server, wherein said email has a destination email address in a first field, a code in a second field and an instruction in a third field, wherein said destination email address corresponds to a subscriber account on the remote email network;
- (c) checking the database to determine if a permission for the destination email address has permission to implement the instruction; and
- (d) applying the instruction to the predetermined set of emails if the permission is granted.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23, further comprising ~~the step of~~ sending an information message to the destination email address if the permission is denied.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23, further comprising ~~the step of~~ populating the database with a device type associated with each subscriber email address, and wherein checking the database ~~step (e)~~ further comprises ~~the steps of~~ checking the database for a device type corresponding to the destination email address, determining if the device type is compatible with the instruction, and modifying the instruction according to the device type.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein populating a database ~~step (a)~~ further comprises receiving a second email at the source email server, wherein said second email comprises a local subscriber's identification in a sender field and at least one subscriber email address in a body field and wherein the database is populated with said at least one subscriber email address and said local subscriber's identification.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein the instruction is a retrieve command, and wherein in response to said instruction, applying the instruction to the predetermined set of emails ~~step (d)~~ comprises sending the set of emails to the destination email address.

28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein the instruction comprises a command and a search criteria, and wherein in response to said instruction, applying the instruction to the predetermined set of emails ~~step (d)~~ further comprises ~~the steps of~~ searching a mailbox associated with the subscriber account to select the predetermined set of emails according to the search criteria.

29. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein the command is a retrieve command.

30. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein the command is a delete command.

31. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein the command comprises a retrieve command and a delete command.

32. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein the search criteria comprises a sender's name string.

33. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein the search criteria comprises a subject string.

34. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein the search criteria comprises a date string.

35. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein the search criteria comprises a boolean operation and a plurality of date strings.

36. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein the search criteria comprises a subject string and a sender's name string.

37. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein the search criteria comprises a recipient name string.

38. (Currently Amended) A method for remotely retrieving a first email from a source email server to a destination email address having a standard email client application, said method comprising ~~the steps of:~~

- (a) populating a database with subscriber email addresses corresponding to subscriber accounts authorized to remotely retrieve emails;
- (b) receiving a second email on the source server, wherein said second email has the destination address in a sender field and a code in a predetermined field;
- (c) checking the database to verify that the destination email address ~~is as an authorized to implement the code account;~~ and
- (d) sending, in response to the code, the first email from the source email server to the destination email address.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38, wherein the predetermined field is a subject field.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38, wherein the predetermined field is an addressee field.

41. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 38, wherein the second email further comprises an instruction in a second predetermined field, and wherein said method further comprises ~~the step of~~ processing said instruction to manipulate the first email according to the instruction.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, wherein the second predetermined field is a body field.

43. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 38, further comprising ~~the step of~~ deleting the first email from the source email server after ~~the step of~~ sending the first email.

44. (Currently Amended) A method for remotely managing a first email on a source email server from an email account on a remote email server, said method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

- (a) receiving a second email on the source server, wherein said second email has a code in a first predetermined field;
- (b) checking a database for a subscriber account corresponding to a sender field in the second email; and
- (c) processing the first email according to an instruction in a second predetermined field if the email account on the remote email server is authorized to implement the instruction.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44, wherein the first predetermined field is a subject field.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44, wherein the second predetermined field is a body field.

47. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 44, wherein the instruction comprises a command and a criteria, and wherein in response to said instruction, processing the first email ~~step (c)~~ further comprises ~~the steps of~~ searching a mailbox associated with the subscriber account to select the first email according to the criteria and executing said command on the first email.

48. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 44 further comprising ~~the step of~~ populating the database with a plurality of subscriber accounts and associated subscriber email addresses.

49. (Currently Amended) A system for managing a predetermined set of emails on a source email server from a remote email network, said system comprising:

(a) a registration database on the source server, said registration database comprising a local subscriber account on said source server and an associated destination email address on the remote email network;

(b) a first module on the source email server, wherein when a first email having a code in a first field, the first email not included in the predetermined set of emails previously stored on a source email server, an instruction in a second field of the first email and a sender email address in a sender field is received on the source email server, said first module determines if the sender email address is in the database; and

(c) a second module on the source server, wherein if the sender email address is in the database, the second module applies the instruction to the predetermined set of emails if the second module has authorization to implement the instruction.